Earth Observation Data

8306. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India Antrix Corporation Limited and U.S. Company, EOSAT have announced a ten year contract for the commercial distribution of earth observation data collected in India;

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement; and

(c) the extent to which this contract is likely to help the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Agreement are as follows:

(i) Both parties have agreed to collaborate to introduce IRS series of satellites (e.g. IRS-1B, P2, 1C and 1D) as a premier remote sensing data source to worldwide network of International Ground Stations.

(ii) EOSAT would undertake to market data worldwide from IRS satellites and also market the data exclusively in the territories assigned to it outside India.

(iii) Both EOSAT and Antrix would collaborate to exploit the market for value added services on a worldwide basis.

(iv) The agreement demands EOSAT's long term commitment to develop IRS satellites as a premier source of remote sensing data in the world.

(c) In view of the excellent market capabilities of EOSAT, exemplified by the global Landsat network established by EOSAT, it is expected that the access to IRS data globally would get much faster acceptance and bring in more revenues.

Space Research

8307. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2719 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd December, 1994 and state what is the total expenditure incurred on space research during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): The total expenditure incurred on space research during 1994-95 is Rs. 761.77 crores.

12.00 NOON

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification of Ministry of Industry

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): Madam, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion):—

(1) S. O. No. 444(E), dated the 18th May, 1995, notifying the Laxmi Board and Paper Mills Limited, Plot No. 2, MIDC Area, Kalyan-Bhiwandi Road, District Kalyan, Maharashtra as a mill producing new print.

(2) S.O. No. 445(E), dated the 18th May, 1995, amending the